# The Hour

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## CANDIDATES TO U. S. CONGRESS HEILED BY FASCISTS

### Concerted Drive to Be Made in Coming Elections

To increase the pro-fascist and anti-democratic representation in the United States Congress and state legislatures is the latest goal of the fascist forces in this country. A unified and concentrated effort is being made to re-elect the pro-Nazi members already occupying the strategic heights of lawmaking, and to present new candidates of similar convictions.

### "Handsome Joe" of New York

The list of new candidates for the coming Fall elections is headed by Joseph E. McWilliams, chief of the Christian Mobilizers, whose cooperation with the Nazi German-American Bund has been extremely frank from the very beginning. One of the most effective rabble-rousers in this country, McWilliams is a candidate for the lower house of the U. S. Congress in the 18th District of New York on a pro-Hitler and anti-Semitic platform (see The Hour for May 11, pages 1-2). One of the main boosters of "Handsome Joe" is Henry George Curtiss, editor of the fascist American Bulletin, who at a recent rally of 400 Mobilizers orated: "We can deliver a telling blow, if you will back up Joe McWilliams. You can elect him if you stand by him. We'll have the Jews on the run before the snow flies!"

### Mussolini's Echo in Michigan

Out in Michigan a similar platform is being pushed forward by Louis B. Ward, editorial director of Father Coughlin's Social Justice, who has recently announced his candidacy for the House of Representatives of the U. S. Congress. In the issue of the Royal Oak weekly for May 20 the candidate comes out with an ominous article entitled "Some Applications of the Guild Idea," wherein "the Medieval Guild" is praised in terms suspiciously close to those used by Mussolini in the advocacy and establishment of his "corporate" fascist state. "Humanism" and "brotherly love" are belittled by Candidate Ward as part of "a whole catalog" of "oried-up shibboleths." The article concludes a


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series on the subject, which Ward apparently meant as a semi-formal announcement of his platform in the coming election campaign.

"Goat-Gland" Brinkley in Kansas

Farther in the Middle West, the notorious "goat-gland" Doctor John R. Brinkley has announced that he may run for the United States Senate. Brinkley owns XERA, a powerful radio station across the border in Mexico (to escape U. S. Federal regulations of broadcasting), and his official magazine Publicity is a vicious pro-Nazi and anti-Semitic publication. We learn that he has recently effected a connection with the "Jayhawk Nazi," Rev. Gerald B. Winrod of Kansas. It will be from that State that Brinkley will attempt his Senatorial race, but, we may recall, it was in the very same Kansas that his friend Winrod ran -- and lost -- for Republican Senatorial nomination in 1938.

Brown and Silver-Shirts in Oregon

Yet farther West, on the Pacific Coast, Kenneth A. Brown is a candidate for the Republican nomination for the U. S. House of Representatives in the State of Oregon. He is running on an out-and-out pro-fascist and anti-Semitic platform, blaming the Jews for all the farmers' ills, and announcing as one of his planks that "Communism is a Jewish movement." It is expected that the Silver-Shirters, at one time quite vociferous if not numerous in the Northwest, will come out in Brown's support with all the influence they think they have and all the noise they certainly can make.

Lawmakers Already in the Saddle

The already elected lawmakers sympathetic to Nazism are confident that their constituents will keep them in their seats. These are: in the lower house, Congressmen Thorkelson, Schafer, Thill, and Sweeney; and in the upper house, Senator Reynolds.

Congressman Jacob Thorkelson, of Montana, a Republican, is of Norwegian origin and pro-Hitler attitude but loudly against "alienism" in this country. His constant pro-fascist insertions in the Congressional Record have been a subject of indignant protests throughout the country. The insertions of such material by Thorkelson have been reproduced by America's many fascist organizations, for wide distribution as pamphlets and journal articles. Thorkelson's official standing is thus used to some of the most marked advantage enjoyed by the pro-fascists in America.

Congressman John C. Schafer, of Wisconsin, a Republican, was in the lower house of the U. S. Congress in 1934-35, and was again elected in 1938. Ever since the coming of Thorkelson, the Wisconsin representative has supported the Montana man, being thoroughly sympathetic with Thorkelson's program, and on a number of occasions expressing himself to this effect. A characteristic remark of Schafer's is that "a small non-Christian minority controls the United States."

Another Wisconsin representative, Congressman Lewis D. Thill, has inserted into the Congressional Record various items of pro-Nazi and anti-Semitic nature, some of them clearly stemming from the German Li-



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brary of Information, Hitler's propaganda office in New York. Social Justice of May 20 devotes more than a page to Thill's effusions.

From Cleveland, Ohio, comes Congressman Martin L. Sweeney, a Democrat, who is busy inserting into the Congressional Record material from Coughlin's sheet. He is quite sure that the voters of the 20th Ohio District will keep him in Washington.

The last, but not least, name on the list is Senator Robert R. Reynolds, a Democrat of North Carolina, truly outstanding for his exploitation of anti-alienism and anti-Semitism and for his association with many groups carrying on anti-democratic propaganda (see "The 'Americanism' of Bob Reynolds" in The Hour for May 4, 1940, page 5).

### Progressive Forces on the Alert

Electing and re-electing all these men, and quite a few others so far held in reserve as "dark horses," the fascist elements in this country hope to make anti-Semitism a major issue in the United States Congress as soon as possible. Oratorical and legislative attacks on Negroes, aliens, labor, and other minorities will be another order of the day.

To counter these plans, a vigorous effort will be made by progressive elements throughout the country to defeat every candidate for legislative bodies who runs on a pro-fascist platform.

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## FRONTERS PLAN INFILTRATION

### Will Become Members of Clubs of the Two Major Parties

As part of their camouflaging tactics (mentioned in the last issue of The Hour with reference to the dissemination of anti-Semitic propaganda), the Christian Fronters are continuing their preparations for the coming elections. The Fronters have decided that, because of the somewhat unsavory publicity received by their organization, they will be able to achieve greater influence by an infiltration into established political groups than by activity under their own name.

Accordingly, at recent inner meetings of the Frontist leadership it has been decided to place Christian Fronters in the various political clubs all over New York City. No distinction is being made between the Republican and the Democratic clubs. The orders are: "Get into all of them, and get into leading positions as soon as possible." If the experiment works in New York, the technique is to be put into effect throughout the country.

From comments by the Christian Front élite, it becomes increasingly clear that in the near future the Christian Front's major and most significant work will be carried on sub rosa. This does not mean that the Christian Front will cease to exist as a public and recognized body. On the contrary, for obvious strategic reasons, there will be kept a facade. But behind the facade, in a well-knit but unofficial body, the most important work will be carried on, and the highest battlements scaled. At least, that is what the Fronters hope for.

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## KLEAGLE ANNOUNCES "MOBILIZATION" IN CINCINNATI

### Klan's District Leader Boasts of Membership Drive

Gabriel L. Albert, Kleagle of the Ku Klux Klan, is conducting a high-powered drive for members in Southwestern Ohio and Indiana. He is paying especial attention to Cincinnati and Hamilton County, and claims that he has several thousand Klansmen in a number of Klaverns under his jurisdiction. Their names and addresses fill a four-inch-thick loose-leaf book, which he guards as his most precious possession.

Kleagle Albert says he is a machinist in a Millcreek Valley factory. His home is a second-floor apartment in Cincinnati, while his office as the Klan's district leader is in Odd Fellows Temple, in the same city. He claims especially cordial relations with the horse-doctor, J. A. Colescott, Imperial Wizard of Atlanta, his chief in the Klan.

### To Terrorize Negroes

Late in April he placed an advertisement in a Cincinnati paper announcing "a mobilization" of his Klansmen preparatory to a huge open-air meeting to be held in May. A cross was burned near Sharon Woods in the usual Klan manner, and it was said that the fiery demonstration was aimed at stopping Negroes from using the county park, but Albert denied it was his handiwork.

The Kleagle was appointed to his job by Colescott more than three months ago. Albert said he was glad of the "distinction," because, according to him, the Klan was interested "only in holding up American ideas." Members, he said, have to be "white, male, Protestant, and native born." He added: "We investigate every application, and you'd be surprised how many we turn down."

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## RIVERA SUPPORTS ALMAZAN

### Almazan's Nazi Connections Recalled

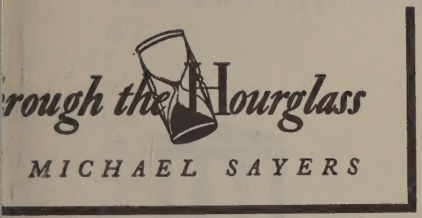
Ever since the beginning of the altercation between Diego Rivera and Leon Trotsky, The Hour has been receiving reports that the famous painter was seeking to ally himself more closely with the forces of General Juan Andreu Almazan. These reports are now fully confirmed by the public announcement made by Rivera on May 18 of his hearty endorsement of Almazan for the coming elections.

As early as Sept, 9, 1939, The Hour indicated the role of Almazan in Mexico and established the closeness of his ties with the Nazis. The Hour pointed out that the fascist general was receiving not only "advice" and financial support from the Nazis but also actual military assistance in the form of arms and ammunition. When The Hour's disclosures were publicized in Mexico, General Almazan issued an indignant statement to the press denying their veracity; but The Hour on Sept. 30 substantiated from documents the validity of its claims. It is therefore somewhat surprising to find Rivera now describing this fascist general as "a moderate and big business man," a great pro-democratic leader, having "the support of the popular masses."

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## PELLEY'S PUBLICATIONS

A glance at the catalogue of "Pelley Publications" is well worth-while. The list of books and pamphlets published by the Silver Shirt chief outlines the whole technique of American fascism. The titles constitute a veritable index of fascistic theory and practice.

First on the list comes The Door to Revelation. Priced at two dollars, this purports to be an autobiography of Chief Pelley, depicting episodes in his career leading to the foundation of the Silver Shirts. It is illustrated, too, and runs on for 481 pages and it's bound "in silver cloth." Here, the first item on the list, we find the basic feature of fascism -- a mystical revelation by means of which one man, the Leader, is enabled to guide the masses into Utopia.

The title of the second book is equally pointed. No More Hunger, as it is called, offers what Pelley describes as "the Economic Escape from New Deal debacle"; or, in other words, the fascistic appeal to the underprivileged and the unemployed.

The homespun Cabin Smoke, appropriately, comes next. This book, bound in "red leatherette" and priced at $3.00, develops the pure "Americanism" theme of our native fascism with rather peculiar biographies of "Thirteen Colonizers of America."

The fourth title takes us on to familiar ground. It is none other than the Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion, the textbook of international anti-Semitism. Pelley appends the explanatory subtitle, "plans of organized Jewry for subjugation of all Gentiles," and offers this indispensable masterpiece at one quarter, six for a dollar, or in lots of one hundred at $12.50.

Dupes of Judah follows, being "the inside story behind the World War" as told from the anti-Semite's typewriter. Here we get "Jewish War Guilt" and the usual attempt to pin the world's major sufferings and crises on a vulnerable minority.

What 50 Famous Men Have Said About Jews continues the same theme with Hitler-like persistence. The Suppressed Speech of General Moseley, advertised with the quotation, "Thank God, we still have our Constitutional Right to bear arms!" and Invisible Governments - Three Speeches by Hon. Jacob Thorkelson, are two books establishing fascism's dealings with political and military demagogy. Finally, with The Key to the Crisis, we return to the fundamental theme of anti-Semitism.

Pelley's catalogue, one notes, offers something for almost everyone. You pay your money and you take your choice of the fascist cure-alls. Are you hungry? Pelley will give you bread. Are you depressed, downcast, hopeless? Pelley's revelation will make a new man of you. Are you concerned about the future of your country? Pelley's patriotism will guard this land. Do you want Peace? Pelley will show you how to abolish War.

This is fascism's technique. Flinging out infinite nets of slogans, catchwords, nostrums, drawing in every variety of human discontent, bewilderment and need, fascism raises its strange and terrible army of the insecure. In this country the fascist net has so far failed to make its haul; the tides have not yet been propitious, or the pull of the fishermen sufficiently strong. But the tides are running fast, there are many fishermen -- and many fish in the sea.

May 25, 1940

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NOTE: Due to other writing obligations, Mr. Sayers finds it necessary to discontinue this column temporarily.